

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A reinforced corner post assembly comprising:

a longitudinal corner post having an outer wall and an inner wall joined at opposing ends to form a hollow tube; and

one or more separate, insertable reinforcing tubes disposed longitudinally within the interior of the corner post hollow tube, said tubes being collinear with the corner post and substantially the same length as the corner post.

2. (original) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the reinforcing tubes are spiral paperboard tubes having circular cross sections.

3. (withdrawn) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the corner post is manufactured from a single sheet of material that is wetted with adhesive, wound into a tube, formed and dried, the reinforcing tubes are inserted into the hollow interior during manufacture of the corner post while the corner post is wet, and the one or more reinforcing tubes are captured by the outer and inner walls as the corner post dries.

4. (original) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the one or more reinforcing tubes are secured by forces applied by the interior surfaces of the outer and inner walls.

5. (original) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the reinforcing tubes are affixed to the outer and inner walls by adhesive.
6. (original) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the reinforcing tubes are affixed to the outer and inner walls by two-sided tape.
7. (original) The assembly of claim 1 wherein at least one reinforcing tube is affixed to another reinforcing tube.
8. (currently amended) A reinforced corner post assembly comprising:
a longitudinal corner post having an outer wall and an inner wall joined at opposing ends to form a hollow tube;
and
one or more reinforcing tubes disposed longitudinally within the interior of the corner post [hollow tube], said tubes being collinear with the corner post, at least one reinforcing tube being affixed to another reinforcing tube
~~The assembly of claim 7 where the reinforcing tubes are affixed to one another with paper.~~
9. (original) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the reinforcing tubes are plastic.

10. (original) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the reinforcing tubes are marked according to their physical characteristics.

11. (original) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the corner post comprises two substantially orthogonal legs and has a substantially L-shaped cross-section.

12. (original) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the corner post comprises at least one bead that helps hold the one or more reinforcing tubes in place.

13. (cancelled)

14. (original) A reinforced corner post assembly comprising:

a longitudinal corner post having an outer wall and an inner wall joined at opposing ends to form a tube having a hollow interior, a longitudinal groove being integrally formed in one of the walls, the groove including opposing sides extending from the wall along opposing edges; and

a reinforcing tube disposed within the longitudinal groove, the reinforcing tube having an outer diameter greater than the distance from one edge to the opposite edge.

15. (original) The assembly of claim 14 wherein the outer wall has an exterior side facing away from the hollow interior, and the groove is integrally formed in the exterior side of the outer wall.

16. (original) A reinforced corner post assembly comprising:

a longitudinal corner post formed from a single sheet of material wound into a hollow tube having two or more layers, the corner post having an outer wall and an inner wall joined at opposing ends and a longitudinal slot integrally formed in one of the walls between opposing layers; and

a reinforcing tube disposed within the longitudinal slot.